AFP American Free Press
Volume V #40 Oct 3, 2005 americanfreepress.net

Wiesenthal

Prevaricator Extraordinaire May Have Also Been Secret WWII Nazi Collaborator

By Michael Collins Piper

Be warned: if you rely on the mainstream media for news about Simon Wiesenthal, the famed "Nazi hunter" who died recently in Vienna at age 96, you may be shocked by the material that follows.

Although the media hails the Ukraine-born Wiesenthal as "the conscience of the Holocaust," the truth is that Wiesenthal told so many conflicting tales at various times and in various circumstances, both in writing and in published and broadcast interviews, of where he was and what he was doing before and during World War II, that many questioned his integrity.

One notable Wiesenthal critic was Bruno Kriesky, the Jewish former Socialist Party chancellor of Austria (hardly a "Nazi apologist,") who called Wiesenthal a "habitual liar" and publicly charged, based on information brought to his attention, that it was likely Wiesenthal had collaborated with the Nazis during World War II.

What is known about Wiesenthal is that very little of what he claimed about his own life and experiences has been consistent. For example, he claimed that during one period he was an "architect," and then an "engineer" and then a "mechanic in a factory that produced bedsprings."

Elsewhere, he said he was a "partisan" fighting the Germans and, under other circumstances, claimed to have been "in hiding" during the same time frame.

At one point he claimed he was a prisoner at Auschwitz in Poland, but later he said he had simply "passed by." He also claimed to have been an inmate at the Lemberg, Austria camp in 1941 but the camp didn't even exist at that time.

For decades he claimed to be "on the trail" of Josef Mengele, the notorious physician on the Auschwitz staff, constantly filing reports with the media about Mengele having been "spotted" all over South America. Relying on Wiesenthal's lies, an array of outfits such as the Anti- Defamation League raised millions of dollars through "scare" letters based upon the thesis of a "hidden Nazi menace."

In fact, it was ultimately determined Mengele had died, years before, in Brazil and that his death had already been very well known to both the CIA and Israel's intelligence service, Mossad.

In the early 1970s Wiesenthal stirred up a global media hate campaign against a Polish-born Chicago man, Frank Walus, who the "Nazi hunter" charged had committed war crimes. After years of legal prosecution by the U.S. government, Walus was vindicated: he had been a farm laborer in Germany and had nothing to do with any war crimes in Poland. Yet none in the mainstream media dared criticize Wiesenthal for his sordid role in the vicious persecution of an innocent man.

One of Wiesenthal's few factual statements shocked many worldwide when he wrote in a letter, later published in the journal ***Books and Bookmen***, stating that "there were no extermination camps on German soil," laying waste to years of legends about "gassings" at such holding facilities as Dachau and Buchenwald.

Since that time, Wiesenthal's claim was affirmed by the American Jewish Committee, which states that the structures shown to American soldiers at the war's end as being the famous Dachau "gas chambers" were never used to kill anyone.

The Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles claims it fights anti-Semitism. However, the truth is that the well-funded outfit spends a great deal of its energy smearing those who question over-reaching U.S. favoritism toward Israel at the expense of friendly U.S. relations with the rest of the world, much of which views the U.S. slant toward Israel as a cause of much Middle East unrest.

Last year, one of the center's spokesmen, Abe Cooper, savaged this author as being "anti-American" for criticizing the U.S. war against Iraq.

Photograph of Simon Wiesenthal reaching out to touch a spot on a diagram.

Caption: "**FINGER POINTER**: Simon Wiesenthal was well known for pointing his finger at suspected WWII `war criminals' (many imagined) during his long career as a `Nazi hunter.' But few have questioned this Holocaust icon's own quite questionable past."

A journalist specializing in media critique, Michael Collins Piper is the author of ***Final Judgment***, the controversial "underground bestseller" documenting the collaboration of Israeli intelligence in the assassination of John F. Kennedy. He is also the author of ***The High Priests of War***, ***The New Jerusalem***, ***The Judas Goats***, and ***Dirty Secrets***, all available from America First Books and First Amendment Books. He has lectured on suppressed topics in places as diverse as Malaysia, Japan, Canada, Russia and Abu Dhabi.

(#40 October 3, 2005 American Free Press)